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DMHC Releases Affordable Care Act Toolkits for Californians
Materials include fact sheets, questions & answers, and resource guides

(Sacramento) - As consumers, businesses and health plans continue to prepare for full implementation of the Affordable Care Act in 2014, the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) has released a series of toolkits to educate Californians about the changes that have already occurred in the health care system.

“The Affordable Care Act puts in place strong new consumer protections, provides additional coverage options and gives people more tools to make informed choices about their health care,” said DMHC Director Brent A. Barnhart. “These toolkits are designed to ensure that individuals, families, seniors and businesses are aware of the ways they can benefit from these changes in our health care system.”

The four toolkits are designed to provide information and resources targeted to individuals, families, seniors and small businesses and contain audience specific questions and answers, a resource guide, and fact sheets on topics such as, when a plan can cancel your coverage, how to file a grievance or appeal, how to keep your coverage through a “grandfathered” health plan, getting the most from your health care dollars, and the Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan (PCIP).

The toolkits were funded through a federal Affordable Care Act consumer assistance grant and can be found here: http://healthhelp.ca.gov/aboutthedmhc/gen/ann/gen_ann_hcr.aspx

The DMHC regulates managed care health plans in California, protects the rights of approximately 20 million health plan enrollees, educates consumers on their health care rights and responsibilities, and preserves the financial stability of the managed health care system. Since 2000, the department has helped more than 1 million Californians resolve health plan problems through its Help Center.

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